

Message Text

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FM USDEL SALT TWO II

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1985

S E C R E T USDEL SALT TWO II 0193

EXDIS/ SALT

DOD HANDLE AS SPECAT FOR SECDEF

3. O. 11652: XGDSI

TAGS: PARM

SUBJECT: PROPOSED STATEMENT FOR MAY 18 MEETING

1. FOR STATEMENT ON FRIDAY, I PLAN TO OUTLINE OUR VIEW ON RELATION OF PROVISIONAL AND INTERIM AGREEMENTS AND PERMANENT AGREEMENT AS SET FORTH ON MAY 8. DRAWING ON PARA 6 OF NSDM 213, I WILL DRAW THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN AGGREGATE NUMERICAL LEVELS, ICBM THROW-WEIGHT AND MRSV/ MIRVS ON ICBMS. I WILL SAY THAT, " IN THE EVENT THAT THE PERMANENT AGREEMENT CARRIES OVER MRV/ MIRV LIMITATIONS AT LEAST AS ADEQUATE AS THOSE WE HAVE PROPOSED FOR THE PROVISIONAL AGREEMENT, IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO ACHIEVE ESSENTIAL EQUIVALENCE WITHOUT THE NECESSITY FOR PRECISE EQUALITY IN SUB- CEILINGS ON THE NUMBER OF ICBM LAUNCHERS AND ON THE THROW- WEIGHT OF THE MISSILES WHICH COULD BE LAUNCHED FROM THOSE LAUNCHERS."

2. WE BELIEVE IT IS IMPORTANT TO INTRODUCE THE ALTERNATIVE ASYMMETRICAL SOLUTION INDICATED BY PARA 6 OF NSDM 213 NOW AS IT SHOULD GIVE US A BETTER BASIS OF ARGUMENT FOR OUR PROVISIONAL AGREEMENT PROPOSAL ON MRVS/ MIRVS. ALTHOUGH PARA 6 OF NSDM 213 DOES NOT SPECIFICALLY MENTION EQUAL AGGREGATE LEVELS, OUR UNDERSTANDING IS THAT ITS LINK WITH PARA 2 PUTS IT IN THE CONTEXT OF OUR OVERALL PROPOSAL FOR A PERMANENT AGREEMENT.

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3. WE INTERPRET PARA 2 A OF NSDM 216, TAKEN WITH PARA 2 OF NSDM 213, AS MEANING THAT AN EQUAL SUB- CEILING ON ICBM LAUNCHER NUMBERS WOULD NOT BE REQUIRED IF WE HAVE " ADEQUATE CONTROLS ON MIRVS," THAT IS LIMITATIONS ON MIRVS IN WHICH THE ASYMMETRIES ARE SUFFICIENTLY FAVORABLE TO US. IF THIS IS CORRECT, WE BELIEVE THAT THIS POINT SHOULD NOW BE MADE EXPLICIT IN ORDER TO DO ALL POSSIBLE TO ENCOURAGE ACCEPTANCE OF OUR MIRV PROPOSAL. ACCORDINGLY THIS IS A BASIS FOR THE PROPOSED STATEMENT IN PARA 1 ABOVE.

4. WE INTERPRET THAT LAST SENTENCE OF PARA 3 OF NSDM 213 AS IN EFFECT BEING THE OBVERSE OF PARA 6, THAT IS TO THE DEGREE OVERALL EQUIVALENCE IN NUMBERS OF CENTRAL SYSTEMS AND ICBM THROW- WEIGHT IS ACHIEVED WE WOULD BE WILLING TO AGREE TO CORRESPONDINGLY SYMMETRICAL MIRV LIMITATIONS. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF USING THIS POINT AT THE PRESENT TIME, IT MAY EVENTUALLY ARISE IN COURSE OF DISCUSSION.

5. IT WILL BE NOTED THAT THE FOREGOING STATEMENT DOES NOT GO AS FAR AS AUTHORIZED BY THE INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED IN PARA 6 OF NSDM 213 AND PARA 2 A & B OF NSDM 216, WHICH WE INTERPRET TO MEAN THAT " WITH ADEQUATE CONTROLS ON MIRVS" WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO ACCEPT PRESENT US- SOVIET LEVELS ON FIXED LAND- BASED ICBM LAUNCHER NUMBERS AND THROW WEIGHT. HOWEVER I DO NOT CONSIDER IT NECESSARY TO GO THAT FAR AT THIS TIME.
JOHNSON

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